

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-18, 21-23 and 30-35 are pending.

Claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-18, 21-23 and 30-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Raduchel et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,338,138, hereinafter referred to as "Raduchel", in view of Ono, U.S. Patent No. 5,937,346, hereinafter "Ono."

In accordance with the foregoing, the pending claims remain for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added.

The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

37 C.F.R. § 1.104:

37 C.F.R. §1.104(b) recites, in part: "*Completeness of examiner's action.* The examiner's action will be complete as to all matters..."

In the response filed March 19, 2007, claim 35 was added. However, the Office Action mailed April 17, 2007 fails to list claim 35 as a pending claim in the "Office Action Summary." Furthermore, the Office Action fails to reject claim 35 over any prior art. In particular, the language of new independent claim 35 provides an alternative recitation of a claimed embodiment, expressly providing "a registration center" and "a client," which patentably distinguishes over the newly relied upon Raduchel and Ono.

Furthermore, the Office Action rejects claims 6, 13 and 21 under the same rejection rationale as for claim 1. However, claim 6, for example, recites in part: "a **first database registering information identifying the first client-side apparatus** when notified of a password input error at the first client-side apparatus **by the first client-side apparatus**; a **second database registering the information identifying the first client-side apparatus** when the information identifying the first client-side apparatus is requested **by the second client-side apparatus** and the information identifying the first client-side apparatus is registered in said first database, in response to a transmission from the second client-side apparatus." The Office Action provides no rejection rationale for rejecting the same.

Accordingly, it is understood that either claims 6, 13, 21 and 35 are allowable for not being rejected over any prior art or any rejection rationale requiring the same would be new and

not necessitated by an amendment, thus requiring a non-final office action according to MPEP 706.07 guideline.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action is deficient under 37 C.F.R. §1.104(b) for failing to "be complete as to all matters."

Applicants respectfully submit that a subsequent Office Action, if necessary, cannot be made final, because the current Office Action is not "complete as to all matters," in particular with respect to claims 6, 13, 21 and 35.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW:

To expedite advance prosecution of the application, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned for a formal, in person interview with the undersigned, the Examiner and the Supervisory Examiner, at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

35 U.S.C. § 103 REJECTIONS:

The Office Action, at page 3, lines 4-7 asserts: "the combination of RAPA and Raduchel ... does not disclose registering information identifying the client-side information processing apparatus in a first database of the registration center when the password input error is detected." The Office Action, at page 3, asserts that Ono discloses the claimed "registering information identifying the client-side information processing apparatus in a first database of the registration center when the password input error is detected, and storing transmission log information related to the registration in the registration center into said storage unit of said client-side information processing apparatus" at column 2, lines 55-60 and in FIGS. 1 and 10.

The Brief Description of the Drawings of the Ono '346 patent only lists figures 1-8. Accordingly, the Office Action's citation to figure 10 of Ono appears to be misplaced.

Further, Ono, at column 2, lines 55-60, merely recites:

Furthermore, the number of occurrences of password mismatching is stored in the storing means. Therefore, it is possible to confirm password input errors by reading the contents stored in the storing means **to know the number of times that password mismatching has occurred.**

In other words, Ono discusses a radio with a storage which stores the number of times incorrect password information is entered into the radio. In contrast, claim 1, for example, recites, in part, "**registering information identifying the client-side information processing apparatus** in a first database of the registration center when the password input error is detected, and storing transmission log information related to the registration in the registration

center into said storage unit of said client-side information processing apparatus." Applicants respectfully submit that Ono does not disclose, either expressly or implicitly, the claimed "registering information **identifying** the client-side information processing apparatus," because Ono merely stores the number of times incorrect password information is entered into the radio.

Furthermore, Ono, at column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 3, recites:

Furthermore, because the number of times of password mismatching is stored, it is possible to ascertain that the wrong passwords had been input even if a robber accidentally succeeded in writing individual information after many attempts at inputting an appropriate password. As a result, it is possible to easily detect whether the radio unit is a stolen article.

In other words, Ono permits the external terminal to re-input incorrect passwords indefinitely until the password matches with the radio unit password. The number of entered incorrect passwords is stored in the storing means so that "it is possible to ascertain that the wrong passwords had been input even if a robber accidentally succeeded in writing individual information after many attempts at inputting an appropriate password." That is, Ono tolerates password input errors.

Applicants respectfully submit that a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be based upon Raduchel and Ono, because there is no evidence that one skilled in the art would modify Raduchel, Ono or any combination of Raduchel and Ono, to include the claimed "**registering information identifying the client-side information processing apparatus in a first database of the registration center when the password input error is detected, and storing transmission log information related to the registration in the registration center into said storage unit of said client-side information processing apparatus,**" as recited, for example, in claim 1, because Ono merely discusses keeping a count of the number of incorrect passwords entered.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the cited references.

The Office Action rejects independent claim 6, for example, for the same reasons as independent claim 1. However, claim 6 recites other patentably distinguishing features in addition to the features of claim 1. Claim 6, for example, recites, in part "An information processing apparatus **in communication with first and second client-side apparatuses, ... registering information identifying the first client-side apparatus** when notified of a password input error at the first client-side apparatus by the first client-side apparatus... a second database registering the information identifying the first client-side apparatus **when the information identifying the first client-side apparatus is requested by the second client-**

side apparatus and the information identifying the first client-side apparatus is registered in said first database, in response to a transmission from the second client-side apparatus.” One benefit of the claimed embodiment is that the owner of the first client-side apparatus can determine if failed power-on password input attempts are registered in association with the first client-side apparatus in a database using a second-client side apparatus if, for example, the owner loses the first client-side apparatus or, for example, if the first client-side apparatus is stolen, when a power-up password input error is determined at the client, rather than at the registration center.

The Office Action fails to provide any rejection rationale for the corresponding features of claim 6. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request a new, non-final Office Action, if necessary, addressing each claim individually.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 8, 16, and 35 patentably distinguish over the cited prior art for similar reasons as independent claim 1.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 13 and 21 patentably distinguish over the cited prior art for similar reasons as independent claim 6.

Dependent claims recite patentably distinguishing features of their own or are at least patentably distinguishing due to their dependence from the independent claims. Withdrawal of the rejection of pending claims, and allowance of pending claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

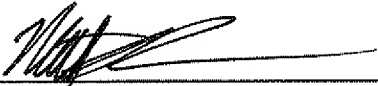
Serial No. 09/938,727

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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